Listing of the Claims:

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

1. (Currently amended) A messaging system comprising:

an interactive system for production and interchange of messages by users over a network;

a time synchronizer for time stamping messages;

an automated topic separator receiving user messages and separating messages according to different topics, wherein the automated topic separator separates messages or parts of messages according to words used in the messages and which considers time stamping; and

a user interface, coupled to said topic separator, for representing in a distinct way parts of messages that were separated by said topic separator, wherein said user interface displays at least one of messages in windows according to topic, and messages in different colors according to topic, and wherein the user interface enables a subgroup of users to conduct a messaging session separate from other users. ; and

~~a time synchronizer for time stamping messages, the automated topic separator being responsive to said time synchronizer to determine topical relationships between messages.~~

2. Canceled

3. (Original) The messaging system as in claim 1, wherein said user interface displays messages in windows according to topic.

4. (Original) The messaging system as in claim 1, wherein said user interface displays messages in different colors according to topic.

5. (Original) The messaging system as in claim 1, further comprising a security system to verify a user's identity.

6. (Original) The messaging system as in claim 5, wherein said security system includes a database of questions from which random questions are posed to a user and whereby verification of validity of answers to posed questions is done by users of the system.

7. (Previously presented) The messaging system as in claim 5, wherein said security system includes a biometric module for verification of a user's identity.

8. (Currently amended) A method of conducting a messaging session at a user's computer between two or more users over a network comprising the steps of:

receiving a message over the network from a user;

automatically identifying a topic of the received message based on words used in the message and considering a time when the message is received;

determining if the a topic of the received message is the same as a previous message, has changed from the a previous message to a previous topic, or is a new topic;

identifying a time of a received message;

determining if a changed topic is a new topic using the time of the received message to determine whether the topic has changed or is a new topic;

determining if a changed topic is a new topic; and automatically

if a new topic, opening a new window to display the received message,

if a same topic as said previous message, displaying the message in a currently opened window, and

if a changed topic displaying the received message in a previously opened window, and

wherein a subgroup of users comprising at least two users conducts a messaging session separately from other users.

9-11. Canceled

12. (Original) The method of conducting a messaging session recited in claim 8, further comprising the step of checking a user's identity.

13. (Original) The method of conducting a messaging session recited in claim 12, wherein the step of checking a user's identity comprises the steps of asking the user random questions and evaluating the user's answers.

14. (Original) The method of conducting a messaging session recited in claim 13, wherein the step of evaluating the user's answers is performed by another user.

15. (Original) The method of conducting a messaging session recited in claim 12, wherein the step of checking a user's identity is performed using biometrics.

16-17. Canceled

18. (Previously presented) The messaging system as in claim 1, wherein the automated topic separator is operable for indicating to the user when the topic of a message can not be decided by the topic separator.

19. (Previously presented) The method of conducting a messaging session recited in claim 8, wherein the topic of the received message can not be decided, and further comprising the step of indicating to the user that the topic of the received message could not be decided.